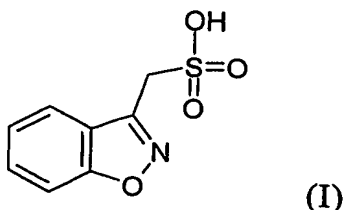
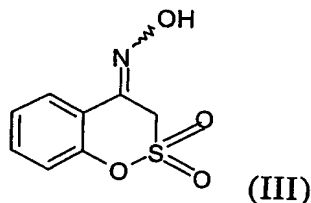


CLAIMS

1. A process for the preparation of benzo[d]isoxazol-3-yl-methanesulfonic acid of formula (I)

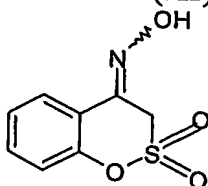


- 5 or a salt thereof, comprising the reaction of an oxime of formula (III)

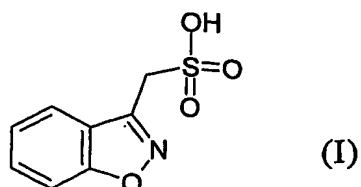


with a basic agent.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the basic agent is an organic
10 base or an alkali or alkaline-earth metal hydroxide.
3. A process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the basic agent is lithium, sodium, potassium, calcium or magnesium hydroxide, or a secondary or tertiary amine.
4. A benzo[d]isoxazol-3-yl-methanesulfonic acid salt, which is the lithium
15 salt or the salt with an organic base.
5. A salt as claimed in claim 4, wherein the organic base is a secondary or tertiary amine.
6. A crystalline compound of formula (III) or an isomer thereof

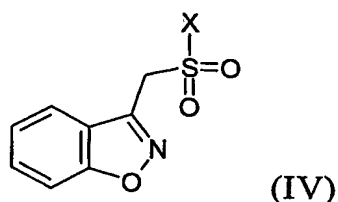


- 20 7. A process for the preparation of zonisamide, comprising the treatment of a benzo[d]isoxazol-3-yl-methanesulfonic acid of formula (I)

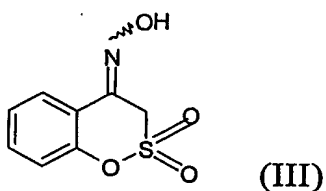


or a salt thereof

with a halogenating agent to obtain a benzo[d]isoxazol-3-yl-methanesulfonyl
 5 halide of formula (IV)



wherein X is halogen, and the treatment of compound (IV) with ammonia;
 wherein the benzo[d]isoxazol-3-yl-methanesulfonic acid of formula (I), or a
 salt thereof, is obtained by a process comprising treating an oxime of formula
 (III)

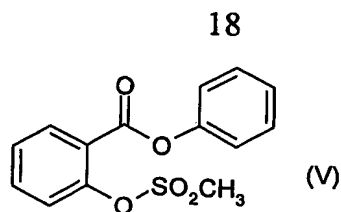


10 with a basic agent.

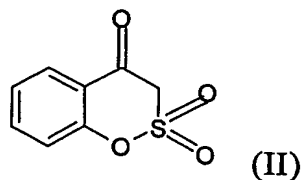
8. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the basic agent is an organic
 base or an alkali or alkaline-earth metal hydroxide.

9. A process as claimed in claim 1 or 7, wherein an oxime of formula (III),
 or an isomers thereof, optionally in the crystalline form, is prepared by a
 15 process comprising:

the reaction of a compound of formula (V)

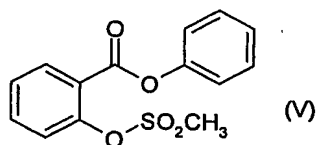


with a basic agent, to obtain a ketosultone of formula (II);



5 the reaction of compound (II) with hydroxylamine; and, if desired, crystallization.

10 10. A process for preparing a ketosultone of formula (II), i.e. 2,2-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-2λ6-benzo[e][1,2]oxathiin-4-one, comprising reacting a compound of formula (V)



with a basic agent.